

MUREX RAMOSUS.

CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Animal Limax.

Testa univalvis, spiralis, exasperata suturis membranaceis.

Apertura desinens in canalem integrum, rectum seu subadscendentem.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 1213.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

MUREX testa trifariam frondosa, spira contigua, cauda truncata.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 1215.

MUREX RAMOSUS.

Rumph. mus. t. 26.

Purpura ramosa.

Argenv. t. 16. f. c. e.

List. conch. t. 946. f. 41.

Contigit ferme omni Muricis generi ut obducatur testa exterior inæquali quadam et rugata scabritie: at insignis omnino est species quam describimus, quod spiræ seu volumina testæ processus efficiant plurimos

plurimos elongatos et dilatatos, apicibus magis minusve ramosis seu divaricatis.

Maria incolit Indica et Americana murex ramosus major interdum speciminibus quæ in tabula monstrantur.



THE
BRANCHED MUREX.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Animal allied to a Slug.

Shell univalve, spiral, roughened by membranaceous sutures.

Aperture ending in a strait or subascending channel.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

Yellowish-brown transversely striated MUREX, with three longitudinal rows of foliaceous processes.

The BRANCHED MUREX.

Branched Purple-Shell.

The genus Murex, distinguished in general by a peculiar irregularity of surface, affords few species more remarkable than the present, in which the spires of the shell are beset with numerous lengthened and expanded processes more or less divided or branched at their extremities. It is a native of the Indian and American seas, and sometimes exceeds the size of the specimens represented on the annexed plate.